

United States Government

Department of Energy
Oak Ridge Operations Office

memorandum

DATE: January 30, 2003


REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SE-30-1 :Elmore

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT PLANNING SUMMARY FOR
2003 - OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS OFFICE**

TO: Beverly A. Cook Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety, and Health, EH-1, HQ/FORS

This correspondence transmits the Annual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Planning Summary for 2003 for the Oak Ridge Operations Office (ORO). This is in accordance with the June 1994 Secretarial Policy Statement on NEPA and Department of Energy Order 45 1.1 B. The attached summary provides a brief description of the status of ongoing NEPA compliance activities and planned Environmental Assessments expected to be required in the next 12 months and Environmental Impact Statements expected to be required in the next 24 months. The summary will be made available for public review at Public Reading Rooms in Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Piketon, Ohio; Paducah, Kentucky; and Newport News, Virginia.

This summary covers all of the ORO sites. Should your staff have any questions, please direct them to David R. Allen, ORO NEPA Compliance Officer, at (865) 576-0411.


Gerald G. Boyd
Acting Manager

Attachment

cc w/attachment:
See Page 2

REC'D
2/12/03
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cc w/attachment:

Jesse Roberson, EM- 1, FORS
Ray Orbach, SC-1, FORS
William D. Magwood, NE-1, FORS
Clarence Hickey, SC-83, GTN
Larry Clark, AU-61, ORO
Patricia **Hart**, AU-61, ORO
Kristi Wiehle, UE-54, PORTS
Mike **Dabbert**, UE-54, PORTS
Matt **Vick**, UE-54, PORTS
David Tidwell, UE-55, PGDP
Barbara Morgan, LM-13, TJNAF
Pamela Thompson, EM-95, WSSO
Walter Perry, M-4,OR0
Richard Frounfelker, EM-96,ORO
Dave Rosine, LM-12,OR0
George **Herron**, UE-5 1, ORO
Mark Belvin, SE-3 1, ORO
Jim Elmore, SE-30-1, ORO
Gary **Hartman**, SE-30-1,ORO
Katatra Day, SE-30-1,ORO
David Allen, SE-30-1, ORO
David Page, SE-30-1,ORO
DOE Information Center, ORO
Environmental Information Center, Waverly, OH
DOE Public Document Center, Paducah, KY
TJNAF Public Reading Room

2003 NEPA PLANNING SUMMARY

OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS OFFICE OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

1. Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF₆) Conversion Project Environmental **Impact** Statements

Description: Assess the impacts of construction, operation, and decommissioning of DUF₆ Conversion Facilities at Paducah, Kentucky, and Portsmouth, Ohio. Public Law 105-204 (July, 1998) required the Department of Energy (DOE) to plan for the conversion of DUF₆. Two site-specific Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are planned to run parallel schedules.

Schedule: Notice of Intent: September 10, 2001
Scoping Meetings: November 28, December 4 & 6, 2001
Scoping Period: September 10, 2001, through January 11, 2002
Draft EIS to public: July 2003
Final EIS: January 2004
ROD: February 2004

Status: The document was on hold for a period of time, but work has resumed on the now two documents.

2. Deactivation and Decommissioning of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

Description: To decontaminate, dismantle, deactivate, and decommission the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant upon cessation of operational activities.

Schedule: To be determined.

Status: Very early in the thought process.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (EA)

Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee

1. Transportation of Low-Level Radioactive Mixed Waste (LLMW) from the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) to Off-Site Treatment or Disposal Facilities, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/EA-1317)

Description: Assesses the impacts of shipping mixed waste by transport from the ORR to off-site DOE and commercial treatment and/or disposal facilities. The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential impacts associated with the options for transportation by truck, rail, and intermodal carriers of existing and forecasted DOE ORR LLMW for treatment and disposal to both commercial and DOE facilities.

Schedule: EA Determination: December 1998
Draft EA: July 2000.
FONSI: August 2002

Status: Complete

2. Lease of Parcel ED-3 of the Oak Ridge Reservation to the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (DOE/EA- 13 16)

Description: Lease or transfer of approximately 450 acres of land for mixed commercial and industrial purposes.

Schedule: EA Determination: May 1999
Draft EA: July 2000
Second Draft of EA: October 2000
FONSI: September 2003

Status: EA was on hold; however, it is now being revised and updated. The new document will consider the recommendations of the comprehensive land-use planning process.

3. United States Enrichment Corporation Centrifuge Research and Development Project at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) (DOE/EA- 145 1)

Description: Proposed leasing of several facilities (K-1 600, K-1 01 and portions of K-1220 and K-1037) at the ETTP for an approximate 5-year period for the purpose of conducting a Research and Development (R&D) project under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) between DOE, United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) and the University of Tennessee-Battelle. The purpose of the USEC Centrifuge R&D Project is to develop an economically attractive gas centrifuge machine and process using DOE's centrifuge technology.

Schedule: EA Determination: August 2002
Draft EA: August 2002
FONSI: October 2002

Status: Complete

4. Management of Potentially Reusable Uranium Materials (DOE/EA- 1393)

Description: To manage DOE's inventory of potentially reusable low enriched uranium (LEU), normal uranium (NU), and depleted uranium (DU) that is excess to national security needs.

Schedule: EA Determination: April 2001
Draft EA: May 2002
FONSI: October 2002

Status: Awaiting permission from SO-62 at HQ to distribute final EA and signed FONSI to public.

5. ²³³U Disposition and Building 3019A Deactivation

Description: The main objectives of this effort are: 1) to process and repackage the DOE inventory of ²³³U stored in the Radiochemical Development Facility (Building 3019A) at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) to render it suitable for safe, long term, economical storage, including elimination of the need for criticality and safeguards and security controls, and, in the process, 2) to extract Thorium-229 (²²⁹Th) for beneficial use in medical research and potential treatment from as much of the ²³³U inventory as is practicable. These activities are to be performed with an emphasis on ensuring safe interim storage and operations in Building 3019A, and achieving closure of DNFSB Recommendation 97-1 at ORNL. Other

objectives include removal of material from Building 3019A for long term storage and placing Building 3019A in safe and stable shutdown for transfer to the DOE program for decommissioning.

Schedule: EA Determination: March 2003
Draft EA: September 2003
FONSI: December 2003

Status: Completing 10 CFR 1021.216 process before beginning the EA.

6. Proposed Changes to the Sanitary Sludge Land Application Program on the Oak Ridge Reservation (DOE/EA-1356)

Description: Proposed changes to the City of Oak Ridge Biosolids Land Application Program including discharge of treated effluent from the Y-12 West End Treatment Facility to the sanitary sewer and changing from a risk-based dose limit of 4 mrem/yr to 10 mrem/yr.

Schedule: EA Determination: August 2000
Draft EA: September 2002
FONSI: January 2003

Status: Responding to comments and preparing draft FONSI for approval early in 2003.

7. Low-Level Waste Storage at the K-1 13 1 Area, East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/EA-1333)

Description: Assesses the impact of use of the K-1 13 1 area as a low-level waste storage area. The EA was cancelled in November 2000; however, the program was reevaluating the need to reopen this EA last year. This year they decided it should be withdrawn.

Schedule: EA Determination: December 1999
This EA has been withdrawn.

8. Authorizing the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) to Allow Public Access to the Boiling Nuclear Superheat (BONUS) Entombed Reactor Building, Rincon, Puerto Rico (DOE/EA-1394)

Description: Assess the impacts of allowing public access to the BONUS facility, which PREPA has proposed as opening as a museum. Some radiological contamination remains in the BONUS facility.

Status: Expecting FONSI to be approved in early 2003.

9. Environmental Assessment Addendum for the Proposed Title Transfer of ETTP Land and Facilities (DOE/EA- 1175-A)

Description: This document will evaluate the previously dismissed title transfer option.

Schedule: Draft EA Addendum: January 2003
FONSI: March 2003

Status: Expecting distribution of draft EA to public followed by approval of the FONSI in early 2003

10. Proposed Conveyance of the American Museum of Science and Energy, Parcel G, and Parcel 279.01 to the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee (DOE/EA-1415)

Description: Assesses the proposed title transfer of the three properties.

Schedule: EA Determination: October 2001
Draft EA: January 2002
FONSI: February 2003

Status: Expecting distribution of final EA after approval of the FONSI in February.

11. Environmental Assessment Addendum for the Proposed Title Transfer of Parcel ED-1 to the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (DOE/EA-1 113-A)

Description: Document was prepared to address the title transfer of parcel ED-1. The original EA addressed title transfer of properties but this alternative was dismissed. The addendum will enable DOE to further evaluate this alternative as well as make necessary modifications to the mitigation action plan.

Schedule: Draft EA: May 2002
FONSI: April 2003

Status: Document will be finalized, i.e., FONSI signed, after the congressional notification period is completed (expected to occur in March-April).

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky

1. Disposition of Wastes at the Paducah Site, Paducah, Kentucky (DOE/EA-1339)

Description: This EA analyzes management and disposition of waste at the Paducah Site. Management of the waste is primarily ongoing safe, compliant storage of the waste. Disposition of the waste primarily consists of shipment to offsite treatment and disposal facilities. Onsite treatment of a small portion of the waste is analyzed in the EA.

Schedule: EA Determination: February 2000
Draft EA: March 2002
FONSI: November 2002

Status: Internal document distribution complete; public distribution expected in early 2003.

2. Implementation of the Authorized Limits Process for Waste Acceptance at the C-746-U L Landfill, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah, Kentucky (DOE/EA-1414)

Description: This EA analyzes the implementation of the authorized limits process in accordance with DOE Order 5400.5 to determine the acceptability of waste streams containing residual radioactive materials for disposal at the C-746-U Landfill.

Schedule: EA Determination: September 2000
Draft EA: March 2001
FONSI: August 2002

Status: Complete

3. Lease of Land and Facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant to the Paducah Area Community Reuse Organization for the Purpose of Mixed Industrial Development

Description: Proposed lease of land and facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant to the Paducah Area Community Reuse Organization for the purpose of mixed industrial development.

Schedule: This proposed EA has been cancelled.

Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Portsmouth, Ohio

1. Reindustrialization Program at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Piketon, Ohio (DOE/EA-1346)

Description: Proposed lease or transfer of certain land and facilities deemed excess or underutilized for mixed **commercial** and industrial purposes.

Schedule: EA Determination: April 4, 2000
Draft EA: May 2001
FONSI: To be determined

Status: Awaiting resolution of significant issues among SODI, the governor's office, EPA, and the DOE site office before approval of the FONSI.

2. Quadrant II Corrective Measures Implementation at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Piketon, Ohio (DOE/EA- 1459)

Description: Proposed implementation of environmental corrective measures and to replace two existing groundwater treatment facilities in Quadrant II of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

Schedule: EA Determination: November 2002
Draft EA: October 2002
FONSI: February 2003

Status: FONSI expected to be signed in early 2003

Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, Newport News, Virginia

1. Proposed Improvements at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, Newport News, Virginia (DOE/EA- 1384)

Description: The Environmental Assessment will cover several proposed construction projects (additions to CEBAF Center and four separate buildings located on the accelerator site) as well as the operation of a new synchrotron light source.

Schedule: EA Determination: January 2001
Draft EA: October 2001
FONSI: July 2002

Status: Complete

2. Proposed Upgrade and Operation of the CEBAF and FEL Accelerators and Construction and Use of Associated Buildings at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, Newport News, Virginia

Description: The Environmental Assessment will cover proposed increase in the operating limits of the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator up to 12- 16 GeV and increase in operating limits of the FEL up to 100 - 300 kW.

Schedule: EA Determination: June 2003
Draft EA: To Be Determined
FONSI: To Be Determined

Status: Still in the planning stages.